

That by-gones should be by-gones, is a maxim of party policy of very general application, and perhaps, in all cases, it would be better to bury every remembrance of past feuds, so far, at least, as their bitterness is concerned; and only to recall them for the purpose of employment as beacons to guard us against falling into the same errors in the future.

The August Elections.

That by-gones should be by-gones, is a maxim of party policy of very general application, and perhaps, in all cases, it would be better to bury every remembrance of past feuds, so far, at least, as their bitterness is concerned; and only to recall them for the purpose of employment as beacons to guard us against falling into the same errors in the future.

In the first district, (chiefly Outlaws), the difficulty, we presume, will rather be in getting a candidate into the field, than in adjusting the conflicting claims of aspirants. This district was Whig in November, but not by any means hopelessly so; and we are pleased to notice that our friends in the various Counties composing it are moving for a Convention to be held at Gatesville, at an early day, for the purpose of bringing out a suitable person as candidate, and devising other proper measures for securing the success of the party in the approaching contest.

In the second or Wayne District, we presume a Convention will be held. A meeting was held last week at Goldsboro', and 50 Delegates appointed to represent Wayne county therein. Messrs. Lane and Ruffin, formerly candidates under different circumstances, are prominently spoken of in connection with the nomination. Mr. Lofin, County Clerk of Lenoir county, is also mentioned, or has announced himself as a candidate. We presume that Mr. L. will abide the decision of a Convention. At any rate, nothing but the most culpable negligence, or unpardonable bad faith, can possibly prevent the election of a Democrat from a District in which the party majority is over two thousand. And certainly, the Democrats of the Second District are not the men from whom any wavering need be feared.

Of course, we cannot say what may yet happen, but, so far, we see no reason to suppose that there will be any Whig candidate in this District. Our own opinion is that there will not; nor, although rumours have not been wanting, have we been led to anticipate any opposition to Mr. Ashe from among the ranks of his own party. It will be time enough to discuss the course most prudent to be pursued in such case, when such cases arise.

In the Fourth District, Messrs. Venable and Lewis, both Democrats, are candidates. A Convention has been talked of, but none as yet seems to be decided upon. Mr. Lewis is spoken of as a gentleman of highly respectable character and talents; Mr. Venable is, of course, well known, and his friends seem confident of his re-election. The District is Democratic by over two thousand. There seems to be no idea of Whig opposition, upon which, perhaps, may depend the calling of a Convention.

The Fifth District contains a Whig majority of some eighteen to nineteen hundred, and is of course conceded to that party. Something, perhaps, might be done towards paving the way for the future by reducing the majority; but as matters now stand, there is little ground to hope for the present. In the Sixth District, however, the majority is not over a thousand, and our friends, many of them at least, think that there is room for exertion and a reasonable hope of success. This District is, in a great measure, that represented in the last Congress by Joseph P. Caldwell, a very respectable gentleman, who, although a Whig, could not support General Serr; he took no active part in the contest in any way. What may yet be done, remains to be seen. There seems, so far, to have been no movement made on either side. Whether Mr. Caldwell will again be a candidate, or whether, if a candidate, he will not encounter opposition from the Scott wing of his own party, we cannot say, but presume that the course of the Democrats will be influenced very considerably by events which may occur. They would certainly prefer Mr. Caldwell to an ultra Scott Whig, and most certainly a good and true Democrat to either. The Seventh District we set down as Democratic. It is so beyond question, and nothing is requisite but proper action on the part of our friends, to elect triumphantly the candidate of our party. We have seen some of our old friends from that region, and they coincide with us in this belief. Public opinion in the upper part of the District—at least so far as we can judge from private conversation and the tone of the Democratic press—points to Burton Craig, Esq., of Salisbury, as the Democratic candidate. If selected as such, Mr. Craig will, no doubt, do his duty, and arouse and bring out the whole strength of the party. Jam. A. Osborne, Esq., of Charlotte, late Superintendent of the Mint there, will, in all probability, be his Whig competitor. In the Seventh District, as being the most nearly balanced, the greatest amount of caution will be necessary, and it will be requisite to unite and cooperate thoroughly. If this be done, the result will be certain victory.

Since the preceding paragraph was penned, we have received the Charlotte papers, and learn from them that Messrs. Craig and Osborne declared themselves candidates at Union Court last week. They are, therefore, fairly in the field, and are able, worthy champions of their respective parties. Of Mr. Craig's success, we have very little doubt. A dead set will unquestionably be made upon Mr. Cleggman in the Mountain District, by the Scott

wing of the Whig party, and no pains will be spared nor effort unessayed to defeat him. Col. Gaither is already in the field. For many reasons, we hope that the Democrats will not run a candidate. Mr. C., in many of the most essential points, assimilates very closely to our views of political orthodoxy, and, although in others he does not, and we should by all means prefer an up and down Democrat, still he is so very far preferable to a Scott Whig, at least to the late Presidential struggle, and the chances for electing a Democrat in that District are so precarious, that we think prudence alone would avoid the risk of electing Mr. Gaither, by such a division of the State Rights forces as the running of a Democratic candidate might produce. Mr. Cleggman has a far higher order of talents, and much greater personal popularity than his Scott opponent. A correspondent of the Rutherford Banner hints at Major Stokes, Democrat, as likely to come out. We hope, under the circumstances, he will not.

A great victory has a tendency to lead to the disorganization of the forces which achieved it, by giving currency to the impression that vigilance is no longer necessary, nor a full effort required. This must be guarded against. As for the effect of official patronage, one way or the other, we attach far less importance to it than most people do. To the great mass of the people, it is a matter of very little concern, whether the recipient of such or such an office be this man or that man, so they feel assured that the office will be administered properly, and in accordance with the principles which contain the real vitality of the party. Such, at least, is our view of the matter, and we think it is about right. The great popular impulses which produce political revolutions are altogether independent of the office-holding or seeking influence, since, as a general rule, we believe that this influence is brought to bear about as strongly and effectively on the side of the defeated as of the victorious party. In our State politics, certainly, federal appointments should not be allowed to possess any weight, for their doing so would strike directly and heavily at the independence of the States.

But we have exceeded our limits. The time is not one for active, electioneering or public excitement; but favorable, rather, to a calm review and candid examination of our position.

Our Trip to Whiteville. Our associate paid a visit to Whiteville on Monday last, on the Manchester Road. The cars were excellent, and the locomotives large. The speed about 30 miles per hour. The track has been completed a little beyond Porter's Swamp, about 65 miles from Brunswick River, from which place the cars start. Distilleries are being erected at several points on the Road in Columbus county. Lands have materially advanced in price in this county, since the Road has gone into operation.

The Superior Court was in session, his Honor Judge Dick, presiding. A large number of frivolous cases of indictments of various kinds, were disposed of on Monday and Tuesday. Columbus will be a very different county in five years from this time. It possesses all the elements of wealth, and all the facilities for progress, in a measure not exceeded by any county in the State; and its resources will soon be largely developed by the access to market which the construction of the Railroad will open up to its products.

We return our thanks to our patrons for the very liberal manner in which they came forward and squared up old accounts; and also for the liberal increase to our list—both Daily and Weekly. THE ISTHMUS OF THUANTEPEC.—It appears by recent advices from Mexico, that Col. Sloc and other citizens of the United States, in connection with certain citizens of the Republic of Mexico, have entered into a contract with the Supreme government of Mexico for the construction of a communication across the Isthmus, and Messrs. Mora and Gonzales, the agents of the government, had left Vera Cruz for Minatitlan, to make delivery of the route to Senor Bonafacio Gutierrez, the agent of the company. The company had already deposited three hundred thousand dollars in the Mexican Treasury.

According to the contract the communication shall be by the River Coatzacoacoas as far as navigable, and thence by plank and railroad to the Pacific—the plank road to be finished in three and the railroad in four years; the direction of the road being such as engineers shall point out as the shortest and easiest. The government grants to the company land for all its necessary purposes, and allows it to take gratis from the public lands any materials it may require. During the duration of the contract the company shall have the exclusive privilege of transportation, and the power to establish rates, collect fares, etc. The company may import duty free every necessary for the construction of the road or for the maintenance of the men employed upon it. The government will protect with its full force the construction, preservation, and security of the work. The fulfillment of the contract at the stipulated time is guaranteed under certain penalties to be borne by the contractor.

The Company contract to carry the Mexican mails free of charge, as also the troops, etc., of the General Government of the States. The national property is to be transported for one fourth rates, and the metals, agricultural and industrial products of the Republic shall be transported for 25 per cent less than the usual rates.

The contract to subsist for fifty years, during which time the Mexican Government is to receive twenty per cent of the net revenue, and at its expiration, to enter into full and absolute possession of the road with all its appurtenances and necessary machinery. The Government shall be considered a stockholder, and have a one-third share in the direction. Foreigners who become concerned in the mixed company, either as stockholders or under any other title which may give them a right to take part in it, to participate in its proceeds, or claim any of its concessions, shall have no greater rights than Mexicans. All questions of this nature, and such as may arise in regard to the acquisition, preservation or loss of stock, or rights in the said road, shall be decided by the proper national courts in conformity to law—the company to discourage any attempts at smuggling—to erect no forts, and transport no armed men without express authority from the Government.

A treaty guaranteeing the neutrality of this route and security to the company was signed at Mexico, on the 23d, by Mr. Conklin, the U. S. Minister, and the proper officers of the Mexican government. It yet remains for the U. S. Government to ratify it. But its refusal will not vitiate Mr. Sloc's contract, which is already concluded—the first \$300,000 deposited on security—and the company put in possession of the route. What effect the return of Santa Anna may have remains to be seen. It may yet upset the whole arrangement. Santa Anna has been elected president of Mexico, by an immense majority. With his known antipathy to the United States and his more than suspected tendency to European intrigue his course will be watching.

Editors in Office. We have noticed among the appointments recently made by President Pierce, the names of several Editors, which is somewhat unusual, although we can see no impropriety in the matter, but rather the reverse. The press does a great deal more than half of all the electioneering. Its conductors en masse and arrange the facts and arguments; give shape and color to the ideas, and in a degree which no other class can do—arouse public attention to the issues of the various political contests, which may be pending; still, it has got to be a sort of idea that their occupation should, for some reason or other, incapacitate them for the discharge of official duties, and exclude them from the enjoyment of any of the honors or emoluments at the disposal of the party to whose success they have so essentially contributed. How far it may be for their interest to stand aloof from such things, is a different matter. As a general rule, we think that the post of honor is a private station, but at the same time, we cannot see the necessity, nor subscribe to the justice of the rule which would convert the editorial profession into the mere hewers of wood and drawers of water of any party, without the privilege or the hope of aspiring to the positions at the disposal of such party; and we are glad to see that General Pierce has made a step in advance towards the enfranchisement of that much abused class of suffering humanity, who may be hereafter regarded as free white men—eligible to office, and not necessarily confined to being the mere stepping-stones for the elevation of others over their own shoulders, and at their own expense. We see among the number of the appointments, Greene, of the Boston Post, Surveyor at Boston; Sanford, of the Mobile Herald, Collector of that port; Pressly, of the Charleston Standard, Sub-Treasurer there, and any number of post offices and such like, editorially supplied out West.

Spring Be Hanged. In spite of all the poets that ever rhymed "trees" to "breezes," or "knees" to "flea's," it is a humbug and an April Fool. It's not pleasant, no how. The weather is mean, generally speaking. March and April are the ugliest months in the year—especially both of them. The wind is altogether too high. People see dust, feel dust, eat dust, drink dust, and breathe dust, and do everything but "blow" with the dust. One day, the warm weather affects the nervous system with a strong weakness, and the "spring fever" becomes general; while, on the next, a Northeast breeze blows all heads, and forces the most fastidious to sniffle out "Good boidig," all of which is somewhat unpleasant, and even unromantic.

But then again:—Now blush the flowers in shady bowers, and little doves blithely grunting hogs, and cooing doves do tell their loves, among the trees, where jump the fleas, and echoes sweet the woods repeat, of niggers tearing, and ripping and paring, and cursing and swearing, with liquor aboard; where they get it, no body knows a word. Well they don't.

MORE GOLD.—The Steamship Philadelphia, at N. Orleans on the 8th, reports the steamship Illinois on her way from Aspinwall to New York with two millions and a half of gold. The steamer Tennessee was lost near San Francisco. She was valued at \$200,000. She was insured in England for \$100,000. The news from the mining regions in California is very favorable. The old diggings yield more abundantly than when first dug over. Gold mines of great value are being discovered in different parts of Oregon. The ship Contest has cleared from San Francisco, starting on her return voyage in a little over one hundred days from the day of her departure from New York. The California dates are up to the 16th ult.

The Steamship Europa arrived at New York on Saturday, with Liverpool dates to the 26th ult. The British Parliament is not in session, and there is little of interest. The renewal of the East India Company's charter is at the present moment a subject of keen inquiry among commercial men, as well as politicians. There seems to be a feeling throughout the country, opposed to a longer domination over a country of a hundred and fifty millions of people, by a Board of four and twenty Directors, in London, Hall Street.

The amount of emigration from the British Islands, both to Australia and America, promises to exceed that of any former season. The French funds had been depressed, but had rallied in consequence of some official statements indicating a settlement of the Turkish difficulties.

The demands of Russia had been slightly modified, and will, it is said, be acceded to by the Porte. They are such, even in their modified state, as indicate the insolent consciousness of power on the part of the party demanding them, and nothing but a knowledge of the vanity of resistance, could lead Turkey to submit to them. England and France will hardly resist the dismemberment of Turkey which they begin to look upon as inevitable. They will simply stipulate that they shall have their share of the spoils.

Cotton is the same as by the Arctic's advices; the market dull. Breadstuffs have advanced slightly.

W. C. BETTENCOURT, Esq., has been appointed Collector for the District of Wilmington, vice A. D. Moore, Esq., resigned.

Daniel Dickson, Esq., has been appointed Post Master at Wilmington, N. C.

Mr. KING.—The U. S. War Steamer Fulton arrived at Mobile, from Havana, on the 11th inst., with Hon. Wm. R. King on board. His health is not improved, and no hope is entertained of his recovery.

The Extra Session of the Senate closed on the 11th inst., and the Senate having disposed of all the Executive business before it adjourned sine die.

Hon. James Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, has been appointed and confirmed as Minister to England. No appointment could have been made which would have given more general satisfaction. Mr. Buchanan's eminent abilities, and ripe experience, peculiarly fit him for the position which he is called upon to occupy. Rumours of differences in the Cabinet, have, some how or other, crept into the papers, but obviously without even the slightest foundation. The Washington Union authoritatively contradicts the whole thing. It is perfectly groundless. Mr. Pugh says that the best way to curb a young man, is, decidedly, to bridal him. Awful man, Mr. Pugh! NEW STEAM BOILER.—The reader will see on referring to our advertising columns, that a new and extraordinary improvement in Boilers is claimed, and the Rights advertised for sale. It is called the Irving Boiler. Archibald M. Campbell, and not Wm. Bow, as previously announced, has been appointed Post Master at Fayetteville, N. C. HAVANA LOTTERY.—The twenty thousand dollar prize in the Havana Lottery of the 31st ultimo, was drawn by a married lady in Mobile, and cashed immediately upon receipt of the drawing. The ticket, No. 35,667, was sold by T. Guesnard, Jr., Royal street, Mobile. The drawing can be seen at this office. The liquor sellers in New York are to strike on the 1st of May for 124 cents a drink. Mrs. Partington is visiting Pittsburgh. She is stopping in the suburbs of the city.

Correspondence. WILMINGTON, April 7th, '55. Prof. A. D. BACHE, Sir.—The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, at its regular meeting held to-day, has instructed me, its Secretary, to communicate to you the resolution, a copy of which you find enclosed, and which passed by its unanimous consent and approbation. I trust I may be permitted to add my individual acknowledgments to that of the Chamber, and to express the hope that, in restored and continued health, you may well enjoy, as is justly your right, that most agreeable of all emotions to a generous mind—the sense of benefits conferred. Very respectfully, Your obedient servant, GEO. DAVIS, Sec'y.

Resolved, That the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, highly appreciating the friendly and valuable services of Prof. Alexander D. Bache, in the cause of the commercial interests of Wilmington, hereby tender to that distinguished gentleman its most cordial and grateful acknowledgments for all his useful labors in that behalf; and especially for his liberal and interesting address before the citizens of Wilmington last evening, on the subject of the improvement of Cape Fear Bar.

Resolved, That a copy of the above resolution, signed by the Secretary and Secretary of the Chamber, be communicated by the latter to Prof. Bache.

WILMINGTON, N. C., April 8th, 1855. DEAR SIR:—I have received with much gratification the very complimentary resolutions of the Chamber of Commerce, communicated in your letter of yesterday. The urgent necessities of the commerce of Wilmington, bearing as they do upon the commercial prosperity of the whole country, and especially of the south, first induced me to turn somewhat aside from the duties of my immediate profession to study the causes which were at work in diminishing the depth of water in the channels to your admirable harbor. If, in so doing, I have succeeded in fixing your attention on the facts of the case, the causes and the remedies, I am much more than repaid for any effort which I have made. In my lecture, to which you so kindly allude, I but acted as the mouth-piece of the Commission which met last December on the subject of this improvement, all the members of which take, I am sure, the same lively interest which I feel, in the execution of the plans thus laid; sanguine that you may not only be enabled to retain your present facilities of access to port, but in time have those of former years restored to you. We desire to see twenty feet of water again on your main entrance bar at high water, and believe that by an expenditure not disproportionate to the value of the result, such a depth can be restored. What has been can be again.

I beg leave to present to the Chamber the maps of comparison, showing the present and former condition of the Cape Fear inlets, read in my lecture. For the very kind terms in which you have communicated the resolutions of the Chamber of Commerce, accept my very best thanks. Very respectfully yours, A. D. BACHE, Supt. U. S. Coast Survey. GEO. DAVIS, Esq., Sec'y Wilmington Chamber of Commerce.

Wilmington and Topsail Plank Road Company. The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Wilmington and Topsail Plank Road Company took place in the town of Wilmington on Monday the 11th of April, 1855. The meeting was organized by calling Mauger London to the Chair, and by the appointment of J. J. Conolly and James G. Swan, Secretaries.

On motion of Robert H. Cowan, Esq., the following gentlemen were appointed by the chair a committee to ascertain the amount of stock represented to wit: Messrs. R. H. Cowan, A. H. VanBokkelen, and Dugald McMillan, who reported that 180 shares were represented in person, and 101 shares by proxy. Which being a majority of the capital stock of the Company, the meeting was duly organized.

The report of the President on the condition of the affairs of the Company was read and received. The committee appointed at a previous meeting of the stockholders, to report by-laws for the government of the Company, made their report, which was adopted.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of a President of the Company for the ensuing year, when Nicholas N. Nixon was unanimously elected.

The following gentlemen were elected Directors for the ensuing year, to wit: Edward Kidder, W. A. Wright, A. H. VanBokkelen, R. H. Cowan, J. H. Flayner, David K. Futch, J. M. Foy, and John L. Meares.

On motion of J. L. Meares, Resolved, That the Secretary of this Company shall take effect from the organization of the Company. Which was unanimously agreed to.

On motion of R. H. Cowan, Resolved, That the Directors of the Company are hereby authorized to cause the books of subscription to be reopened for the purpose of increasing the Capital Stock of this Company, at such time as they may deem expedient, in accordance with the provisions of the charter. Which was adopted.

On motion, J. J. Conolly and Cornelius DuPre, were appointed a committee to examine the accounts of the officers of the Company, and report at the next annual meeting.

On motion of C. DuPre, it was Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the papers of the town, and that the reports and by-laws be printed in pamphlet form, and a copy be sent to each Stockholder.

The thanks of the meeting were tendered to the Chairman and Secretaries for the satisfactory manner in which they discharged their duties. On motion of Robert H. Cowan it was Resolved, That the Chairman and Secretaries prepare the proceedings of this meeting for publication. M. LONDON, Chm'n. J. J. CONOLLY, Sec'y. Jas. G. SWANN, Sec'y.

The Intelligence from Europe forbodes disaster for Turkey. The concessions made to Austria by the Sultan, instead of propitiating the Northern powers, appear only, by revealing the weakness of the Porte, to have furnished pretexts for new aggressions. The Russian embassy, it is said, talks in the most threatening manner. The ostensible subject of complaint is the Church of Jerusalem. But the real one, all are agreed, is that Nicholas wants Constantinople. The London Times, always a shrewd divider of British opinion, gives up the Ottoman empire virtually to partition. All the "thunderer" asks is that British trade in the Orient shall not be restricted. It must be confessed that these are ominous signs for the her of Mahomet. Never, since the Crescent rose in the heavens, has it seemed so much like fading. Many far-seeing statesmen believe, indeed, that its hour has come. They argue this, not less from the immense physical power of Russia, than from the religious aspect given to the dispute by Nicholas. They maintain that the fall of Turkey is at hand, not only because a religious enthusiasm fires its Christian assailants, but because there exists no longer in the Ottoman armies any countervailing enthusiasm for Mahomedanism. Utterly decayed within, and overpowered without, the Kingdom of the Mejid is fast to its fall.

For a long series of years it has been the policy of Russia to represent herself as the protector of all the various tribes professing the Greek religion. She has taught them to look up to her as their friend, and to her Emperor as the civil patriarch of their faith. The Turkish dominions in Europe are the especial seat of these intrigues. Vast territories, politically subject to the Sultan, are secretly breaking out into rebellion against the throne, and in consequence of positive assurances of it. The number and violence of these insurrections is continually on the increase. Like the shivering fits that seize the patient in the last stages of certain diseases, they recur more frequently as the hour of dissolution approaches, until, under their convulsive throes, the system is being racked to pieces, and Turkey succumbing to death. The Ottoman Empire in Europe would appear, in this view, to be rapidly tending to its close. It is worn out, disorganized, diseased in every limb. If left alone, it would perish. Assailed by a powerful foe, it will prove too weak to resist, and die even before its time.

This opinion gains the more strength when the changes, which the late Sultan made in the organization of the empire, come to be taken into view. Formerly, the Ottoman monarch was the feudal chief of scores of hereditary princes, each governing the free, but hereditary, tribes which he ruled over in distant territories, a semi-independence. But when, under the banner of the Crescent was unfurled at Constantinople, they gathered, with their followers, from all quarters of the empire, and rallying around the heir of Mahomet, secured to him an army of wild enthusiasts, such as few enemies could resist. From the confines of Nubia; from the furthest shores of the Persian gulf; from the hills of Kurdistan; and from the plains of America, they came, warriors crowded, at the blast of the Turkish trumpet, forming the finest body of irregular troops in the world; and until within the last century, they were invincible. But partly from the decline of religious fervor among the Mahomedan tribes, partly from the increasing power which a thorough discipline gave to the Christian armies, the Turkish forces sunk, first to an equality with those of their enemies, and finally declined into a positive inferiority. Mahomet, the father of the present Sultan, thought to remedy this by remodelling the army and empire. Hence arose what is called, throughout all the boundaries of the Ottoman empire, the Reform.

The result of this change has been to break down all the old semi-independent principalities, and to transform them into mere departments, so to speak, entirely dependent on the Sultan. The old Fashas, instead of being governed by hereditary nobles, were now ruled by deputies, who are changed almost every year, in order to prevent their acquiring influence with the people. Under the former system, the Pasha, though a tyrant in his own district, was interested not to let any one else oppress his subjects. But, under the present system, there are a dozen officials who plunder and oppress, with no one but the Sultan, a thousand miles off, to befriend the victims. Under the old system there was a hearty loyalty to the heir of Mahomet, at least in the portions of the empire where the Christian population was not so numerous. Under the present system, there is nothing of this loyalty left, but the defence of the throne is committed to mercenary troops. The former armies of the Porte were the most magnificent irregular troops in the world. The present army is the worst of the disciplined armies of Europe.

No doubt the Turkish empire was held less firmly in hand, by the Sultan, under the old system; for the semi-independent princes were continually rebelling. No doubt the Turkish empire was held less firmly in hand, by the Sultan, under the old system; for the semi-independent princes were continually rebelling. No doubt the Turkish empire was held less firmly in hand, by the Sultan, under the old system; for the semi-independent princes were continually rebelling.

Comparative Increase of Population of England and the United States. The U. S. Economist in an article on the "buyers and sellers of food," makes the following statement relative to the census of the United Kingdom, as compared with the United States, for three periods, as follows:—

Table with 4 columns: Year, England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland. Rows for 1831, 1841, 1851.

The U. S. Economist in an article on the "buyers and sellers of food," makes the following statement relative to the census of the United Kingdom, as compared with the United States, for three periods, as follows:—

Table with 4 columns: Year, Inhabitants, Emigrants, Total Increase. Rows for 1831-1841, 1841-1851, 1831-1851.

The sugarhouse cure of consumption is said to be a humbug, and many of the men who work in the sugarhouse die of this disease.

From the Baltimore American. There has been a very exaggerated idea of the value of the precious metals by Mexico since the Spanish conquest. We had an opportunity some time ago to examine authentic statistical documents—some going as far back as 1563, and others as late as 1844, and we were really struck by the following table, prepared by us with great care, exhibiting the true result of the Mexican silver coinage from 1563 to the 1st of January, 1850:—

Table with 2 columns: Year, Total coinage of Mexico in 34 years. Rows for 1563-1844, 1844-1850, Total.

This sum, as an average annual production, exceeds over so long a period does not appear to justify the calculations that have been made relative to the metallic production of Mexico. Still, in fairness to the wealth of the nation, we must remember that the nearly forty years the country has been constantly taxed by revolutions; and that prior to the original outbreak, neither the population nor the mining industry of Mexico was of such a character as to insure the most copious returns from its veins.

Some recent mining returns seem to confirm the view. An official table of gold and silver coined into the eight months of Mexico from 1st of January, 1844, to the 1st of January, 1845, show that in that time were issued in gold, and \$13,065,454 in silver; or \$13,328,931 in gold. At that date it was estimated that more energy was about to be infused into mining throughout the republic, and that the value promised a corresponding yield.

We are glad to say that this prophecy has been verified, and that it is likely Mexico will soon contribute a largely increased supply of silver for the world's commerce and circulation. In February, 1850, an official report was made to the Mexican Chambers by which it appears that in the month of the 30th of January, 1849, the Mexican mints, exclusive of Havana, amounted to \$1,351,416 in gold, and to \$27,003,989 in silver—total, \$28,355,405.

To this increased emission since 1844, the number of the "Cuadro Sinepicio" of Mexico, in 1850, estimates that we should add \$10,000,000 as having left the country in the same eighteen months in bullion. This would raise the entire yield of the mines, during much of the current year, to \$38,355,405; but as it is likely much of the gold, and only a residue of old gold in bullion was not freshly taken from the mines during the same period, we think it only likely that the true increase may be placed at \$5,000,000 annually or \$20,000,000 in 1850, instead of \$14,000,000 as in 1844.

These results are quite encouraging to all engaged in Mexican mining. We have long believed that the ores of the republic were inexhaustible, and that nothing would prevent Australia from giving supremacy in the control of silver to an industrious population that would not be content to live on bananas and revulsion.

Increase of Ship Building in Maine. Maine is the greatest ship building State in the Union; and perhaps no district of country in the world of equal maritime frontier can vie with her in this particular. Ships are the great crop of the State. We have not the last annual returns at hand, but less than 100,000 tons of shipping were built in that State during the last year, or more than half of the sea going tonnage added to our commercial marine during that period. This branch of business has increased very rapidly within a few years throughout the world, and we are well warranted in believing that the prospect is that the business will continue to have a much greater extent the coming year than ever before. In a single town in Waldoboro' District (Rockland) 10,000 tons are to be built against 4,309 tons last year. The Belfast and other more eastern Districts also propose to largely extend their business. In Bath an unusually large number of ships are on the stocks and projected. According to the Belfast and other more eastern Districts also propose to largely extend their business.

We cannot undertake to say to what extent our ship builders can safely go in the construction of ships, though it would seem as though there must be a pause shortly. The business has been going on at a constantly accelerated rate ever since 1847. The fame of that year enhanced the price of freights amazingly, and an immense stimulus was thereby given to the shipping interest. The sudden springing up of the California trade followed, and sustained the more than ordinary activity. Australia has appeared and made yet another demand for ships. The consequence has been that the increase of our mercantile marine during the last five years has been prodigious. From 1825 to 1835 the total increase was not over 110,000 tons per annum. From 1835 to 1845 it was not more than 120,000 tons a year, while from 1845 to 1852, inclusive, the annual increase has not been short of 250,000 tons, or more than double the annual increase of the preceding ten years. Such a remarkable ratio of increase under ordinary circumstances would inevitably result in ruinous profligacy of ship building.

But under the extraordinary demand of California and Australia, and what we think of more potency than either, the vast increase of our cotton crop and in the production of coal, the navigation interest has suffered no general reverse, but has been, for the most part, productive and prosperous. But to all such gallant movements there must come an end, and a least a resting spell; otherwise we shall have a ship building fever, which will be a very bad thing. But considering the new fields of our commerce in the Pacific seas, and the rapidly increasing products of the country for the coastwise carriage, it is difficult to fix the precise limits when we may stay our hand in ship building. We can only say that the time must come sooner or later. Everything, however, is tending to throw the commerce of the world more and more into our hands, and we are enterprise of our merchant and maritime population, who strike boldly for it, in every quarter of the globe. We think we may find they have reached the ultimate point of peaceful conquest.—New York Tribune.

THE PRICE OF DIAMONDS.—Rough diamonds, 40 for cutting, are sold £1 13s. 4d. to £2 the carat. A carat is rather more than three grains, and 156 carats equal to one ounce troy. But if the stones are above one carat, the square of the weight is multiplied by the price of a single carat; so that, for example, a rough stone of three carats costs 3x3x2 or £18. It is similar with cut diamonds, and at present (1850) the purest brilliants of two carats fetch more than £8, a brilliant of two carats 2x2x8, or £32. When stones are over eight carats, however, this is altered, so that they are of a quarter valued still more highly. Diamonds are cut in many ways, and the most common is the octahedron, or the shape of the Sultan of Turkey weighs two ounces; one of the Russian sceptre more than an ounce and a half; the thickness ten lines. The Empress Catherine the Great purchased it in the year 1772, from Amsterdam, for it was paid £75,000 and an annuity of £500. The French and Austrian regalia. One of the most perfect is the French, known as the Pitt or Regent Diamond. It was bought for Louis XV., from an Englishman named Pitt, for the sum of £135,000 sterling, but has been valued at half a million. It is a brilliant of two carats, and is cut in the shape of a heart, and is one of the stones most renowned in the East, is in possession of the Emperor of Russia, and is valued at five millions, but now, polished, only about one million. It is valued at £2,000,000 sterling. If we look only to the common mode of estimating the value, a perfect brilliant weighing half a carat would be worth £20,000,000. Some have estimated that such a diamond exists among the royal treasures of Portugal, as large as a hen's egg; according to others this is only a topaz.